Pastor Ron Case 10/13/13

# "Rewards for Faithfulness"

"Thus says the LORD: 'Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy." (Jeremiah 31:16)

### **Reward of Resistance**

<u>2 Chronicles 31:20-21, 32:1</u> – (20) "Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and faithful before the LORD his God. (21) And every work that he undertook in the service of the house of God and in accordance with the law and the commandments, seeking his God, he did with all his heart, and prospered. (1) <u>After these things and these acts of faithfulness,</u> <u>Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded</u> Judah and encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them for himself."

#### **Rewards of Reassessment & Reparation**

<u>2 Chronicles 32:2-5</u> – (2) "And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come and intended to fight against Jerusalem, (3) <u>he planned with his officers and his</u> <u>mighty men to stop the water of the springs that were outside the city; and they</u> <u>helped him</u>. (4) A great many people were gathered, and they stopped all the springs and the brook that flowed through the land, saying, 'Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?' (5) <u>He set to work resolutely and built up all</u> <u>the wall that was broken down and raised towers upon it, and outside it he built</u> <u>another wall, and he strengthened the Millo in the city of David</u>. He also made weapons and shields in abundance."

#### **Reward of Resolve**

<u>2 Chronicles 32:7-8</u> – (7) "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him, for there are more with us than with him. (8) With him is an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles.' And the people took confidence from the words of Hezekiah king of Judah."

#### **Reward of Retribution**

<u>2 Chronicles 32:20-21</u> – (20) "Then Hezekiah the king and Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, prayed because of this and cried to heaven. (21) And the LORD sent an angel, who cut off all the mighty warriors and commanders and officers in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he came into the house of his god, some of his own sons struck him down there with the sword."

**Key Point:** "Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward." (Hebrews 10:35)

## Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? Have I allowed present circumstances or sin to weaken my faith? (Rom. 4:18-20; Heb. 3:12-13) Am I confident that the Lord rewards persistency of faith? (Ps. 58:11; Gal. 6:9; Rom. 2:6-7; John 11:40)